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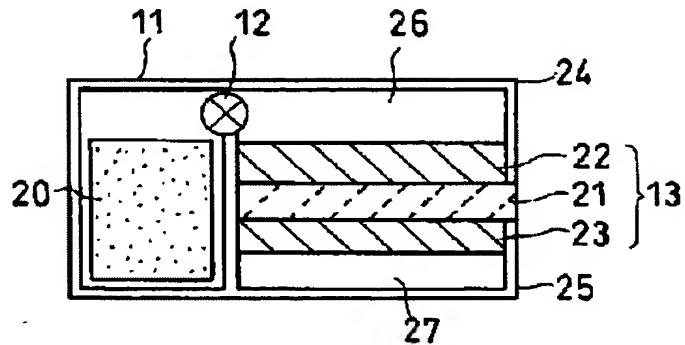
APPLICATION DATE : 28-12-99
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INVENTOR : ITSUDO YASUHIRO;

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TITLE : FUEL CELL AND ITS FUEL TANK



ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To downsize a fuel tank for fuel cell and increase its capacity.

SOLUTION: The fuel cell is composed of: a lower generating part 13, in which an electrolytic membrane 21 is held between a pair of electrodes composed of a fuel pole 22 and an oxidizer pole 23; and a fuel tank 11, in which a low-grade hydrocarbon fuel is stored as a fuel source supplied to the fuel pole 22. In the fuel tank 11, a porous body 22 containing a catalyst is housed, and in this porous body, a lower hydrocarbon hydrate is housed. The lower hydrocarbon hydrate, being the sources of the lower hydrocarbon and the water vapor, and being capable of letting them react with the catalyst and supplying hydrogen, it is possible to supply hydrogen fuel to the fuel cell with only one fuel tank without necessity for a reformer.

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